

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 23 through 46 are pending, with Claims 23, 31, and 32 being independent. Claims 6 through 8, 10, 11, and 13 through 22 (including (a) rejected Claims 15 through 17 and 22, the rejection of which is respectfully traversed, and (b) non-elected Claims 6 through 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 18 through 21) have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 33 through 46, which are dependent claims formulated upon the basis of Claims 24 through 30, have been added.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Daniel S. Glueck/  
Daniel S. Glueck  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 37,838

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3800  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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